

RELEASE WITH PHOTO

December 10, 2008

From Pat Williams, Hospital Representative
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Iowa
Marshalltown IA 50158
515-753-4415

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GIFT SHOP HELD DECEMBER 2ND
AND 3RD

Units from throughout the State of Iowa send in their money for the Christmas Gift Shop to Department Headquarters of the American Legion Auxiliary. This then is distributed to the DVA Medical Centers and the Iowa Veterans Home. Pat Williams, Hospital Representative at the Iowa Veterans Home, and Arlene Kremer-Bell, Deputy Hospital Representative, purchased the gifts and volunteers from Central Iowa come in to help set up and shop for the residents of the Veterans Home. These are all wrapped, prepared for mailing and mailed free of charge during the two days the Gift Shop is open to the residents. This year over the two days close to 640 residents participated with over 560 packages being mailed or distributed.

I want to especially give THANKS to the manager and staff of K-Mart for going above and beyond with helping us with the purchasing and storage of the gifts this year.

Residents who are unable to leave their rooms are able to make their selections from a "gift cart" taken to their living areas by Auxiliary and Legion volunteers. American Legion members also assist in various tasks, such as wrapping, escorting, and mailing.

pjw